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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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		INFO	RMATION REP	ORT REPORT NO.	25X				
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	COUNTRY	Infochina		DATE DISTR.	23 January 1953				
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	2.	The Nationalist Liberation Fr in 1946, at a time when many on the eve of Cach Meng Dong to China with leaders of the ing of the Front took place i of its principal organizers: and Nguyen Lien. In an attempt to lend prestig	of the nationalist Minh Hoi (CMDMH) I Viet Nam Quoc Dan In Hanoi on 15 Apri Truong Anh Tu, Ma te to the movement	parties were being eader Nguyen Hai Tha Dang (VNQDD). The find 1946 under the lead ingoc Dai, aka Hoan Nguyen Hai Than was	dispersed, n's flight irst meet- dership g Long, asked to				
		assume the presidency of the Front. Than's endorsement of the movement in a circular requesting CMDMH members and sympathizers to join the Front made the movement appear to be a continuation of the CMDMH. Like the CMDMH, the Front took an official anti-Viet Minh position and gained adherents, especially in the Nam Dinh, Bui Chu, Thanh Hoa and Phat Diem areas where the large Catholic more representation was fewereble to the opposition.							

- 3. The movement suffered during the December 1946 Viet Minh conflict, when Truong Anh Th and Nguyen Lien were arrested by the Viet Minh. Tu was executed and nothing is known of the whereabouts of Lien. Mai Ngoc Dai took refuge in his native province of Thanh Hoa. He regained the French-controlled zone in 1948 and died in Hanoi on 15 March 1952 at the age of 48.
- 4. The Front, lacking organization and leaders, became more or less a Catholic movement, locally directed by the parish priests. Among those most active in the Front are the following priests: Hoang Quynh and Tuyen (fnu) in Tam Ca Ly, Wha (fnu) in Van Hai and Ly (fnu) in Phuc Nhac. Seminarists including Chinh Dao aka Gia Rue, and Bon Trac aka Tiep are active in the Thanh Hoa area. Nationalist militants sought by the Viet Minh are also working in the Front, but each terms to work for his wan special interests.

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- 5. This lack of cohesion and overall direction resulted in a rash of acts of violence which forced the Front to become clandestine following Viet Minh reprisals. The following are examples of such incidents:
 - a. In May 1947 a revolt protesting Viet Minh tax collection in the village of Mau Thon, Mong Cong District, Thanh Hoa Province, degenerated into a pitched battle. Members of the village Administrative and Resistance Committee and the Dan Quan, local labor-defense unit, were for the most part members of the Front.
 - b. In June 1947 local leaders of the Front, including Hoang Quynh, in Tang Dien and Xuan Ha villages organized a collective assassination of Administrative and Resistance Committee members and disarmed the Dan Quan. Several repressals followed during which Hoang Quynh was arrested, but later released after the intervention of Bishop Le Huu Tu.
 - c. In July 1947 Hoang Thanh, brother of Mai Ngoc Dai aka Hoang Long, organized the assassination of several Viet Minh leaders in Phuc Nhac, Ninh Binh Province. Thanh was arrested and executed in September 1947.
- 6. At the present time the nominal membership of the Front remains high in the Catholic provinces, but the Front itself has become ineffective, lacking organization and leadership. Meetings of the Front are often held in Hanoi, but no contact is maintained with other branches.

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l.	Comment.			
	the Nati	onalist Liberation Fr	ont - referred to as	the People's
	Front - is the most	significant nationali	st force in Thanh Ho	oa Province and
	was responsible for	initiating the recent	Catholic uprising i	In the Catholic
	villages in Nghia Lo	e District.		

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